

Robert H. Morris to George Washington, 1754, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM GOVERNOR MORRIS. ¹

SIR

Good Intelligences being of the utmost Consequences at this Juncture, and Mr. Gist knowing more of Indians and of the Nature of the Country than any man here I have avail'd myself of his coming and desir'd him to go by Mr Weisers & consult with him in what manner to obtain true Accts. of the Motions of the Enemy & to settle a Correspondence will you at Fort Cumberland. He will not be long detain'd in doing this & by him you will receive full & certain Intelligences.

Several of my Letters say that there is a large Body of French & Indians destin'd against this Province & Virginia & that they were seen to pass the Alleghany Hills.

The Party intended for Virginia will no doubt begin their Hostilities at or near the Fort. That wch marches this way it is suspected have a Design to seize and fortify Shamokin & to send their Indians especially the Delawares whose scheme this is said

to be as a means to put them again in possession of their Country to scalp the Inhabitants and hinder them from obstructing this grand Design.

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I hope this Scheme is not in the Intention of the Enemy for if it be I know not how it can be prevented without large assistance from the Neighboring Provinces & a Detachment of regular forces.

I have ordered that the earliest Intelligences be sent to You of the Motions & Progress of the Enemy, yt in case you can spare any assistance it may be properly employ'd or want it from our Inhabitants who are all Volunteers & without any compensation or Pay for their serving they may assist you.

I am Sir Your most humble Servant ROBT. H. MORRIS.

As there may be more danger in Cumberland County than in York County I desire you will direct your Letters to the Care of Genrl. Stevenson Esquire at York who has my Directions to forward your Dispatches to me.

[Indorsed in Washington's handwriting, and note made by him, "No date—but must have been written in 1754."]

1 Robert Hunter Morris, son of Lewis Morris, Governor of New Jersey. He was for twenty-six years one of the Council of New Jersey; Lieutenant-Colonel of Pennsylvania from October, 1754, to August, 1756; died, February 20, 1764, "full of years and honors."—BROCK.